

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated May 10, 2006, pending Claims 1-37 were rejected and the rejection made final. In response Applicant has filed herewith a Request for Continued Examination and has amended dependent Claim 36. Applicant intends no change in the scope of the claims by the changes made by this amendment. It should be noted this amendment is not in acquiescence of the Office's position on allowability of the claims, but merely to expedite prosecution.

Claims 1-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuban et al. (hereinafter "Kuban") in view of Crawford, Jr. (hereinafter "Crawford"). The Office is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections presented in the outstanding Office Action in light of the following remarks.

The present invention broadly contemplates a method whereby hospital room information is visually displayed, thereby aiding hospital staff in comprehending the hospital bed information. (Page 4, lines 1-3) In accordance with at least one presently preferred embodiment, the present invention utilizes the capabilities of a computer to graphically display selected information in a manner which conveys the information to hospital staff in a form which aids in comprehension of the information. (Page 3, lines 11-14) Specifically, the information is preferably conveyed for multiple patient units through the use of matrix type format. A cell is used to represent each room in patient units being displayed. (Page 3, lines 14-16) Components of the cell indicate key

considerations for every bed control or admitting department. Additional information may also be displayed by clicking a component of a cell. (Page 3, lines 16-18)

As presently best understood, Kuban appears to be directed to a method and apparatus for room status, for timekeeping and for wakeup communication. (Column 1, lines 25-26) Status information appears to be sent to a “system manager location” at which room status information “can be tabulated and displayed for all the rooms in the hotel.” (Column 4, lines 30-36) This information is presented via a display screen in which data is inputted using a keypad with predetermined key configurations. (Column 11, lines 1-26) Kuban

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an arrangement for producing a cell for being viewed on said display, said cell conveying information regarding a room, wherein said information is conveyed using pre-set and user-defined attributes that comprise pre-set and user-defined attribute values **such that the user-defined attributes and values may consist of attributes and values that may or may not have previously been used with the apparatus.** (emphasis added) Similar language appears in all of the independent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that Kuban clearly falls short of present invention (as defined by the independent claims) in that, *inter alia*, there is no teaching or suggestion in Kuban to convey room information using both pre-set and user-defined attributes that comprise attribute values that can be pre-set and user-defined such that the user-defined attributes and values may consist of attributes and values that may or may not have been previously used with the apparatus.

As best understood, Crawford appears to be directed towards a centralized system that monitors six vital signs for each bed/patient as well as room information. Crawford appears to employ a central server with “dumb” monitors to reduce the cost of the system. (Column 7, lines 40-68) However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Crawford to convey room information using both pre-set and user-defined attributes that comprise pre-set and user-defined attribute values such that the user-defined attributes and values may consist of attributes and values that may or may not have been previously used with the apparatus. Thus, Crawford does not overcome the deficiencies of Kuban, nor would the combination of Crawford and Cuban realize the instant invention.

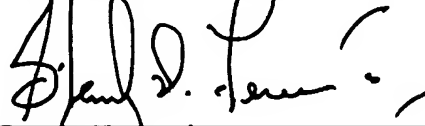
A 35 USC 103(a) rejection requires that the combined cited references provide both the motivation to combine the references and an expectation of success. Not only is there no motivation to combine the references, no expectation of success, but actually combining the references would not produce the claimed invention. Thus, the claimed invention is patentable over the combined references and the state of the art.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 13, 25, and 37 fully distinguish over the applied art and are thus in condition for allowance. By virtue of dependence from what are believed to be allowable independent Claims 1, 13, and 25, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-12, 15-24, and 26-36 are also presently allowable.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including Claims 1-37, is presently in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is hereby

earnestly solicited. If there are any further issues in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley D. Ference III", written over a horizontal line.

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